

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are pending in the present application. In this amendment, Applicants traverse all rejections as well as amend claims 1, 8, 14, and 19 in order to expedite prosecution.

In the Final Office Action mailed August 3, 2004, Examiner rejected claims 1-2, 4, 8, 10, 14, 16, and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Siwko (IEEE 2000). Furthermore, Examiner rejected claims 3, 6-7, 912-13, 15, 18 and 20 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Siwko in view of Redden (EPO Patent Application 0 658 014 A1).

Applicants respectfully respond to this Office Action.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 102(e)

Examiner rejected claims 1-2, 4, 8, 10, 14, 16, and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Siwko.

Siwko does not teach all elements of Applicants' claim 1 or any other of Applicants' claims. Applicants' claim 1 includes "an initial call request block probability" in a "method for blocking a call request" as well as "adjusting said initial call request **block probability** based on elapsed time." Examiner mentions in the Office Action that Siwko discloses the **call dropping probability** factor in a calculation to determine call admission or blocking. A **call dropping probability** factor is not the same thing as a **block probability**. A call dropping probability is the probability of dropping an established call, while a block probability is the probability of the establishment of a call being blocked. Therefore, Siwko does not teach the use of a block probability in a method for blocking a call request.

Examiner also mentions that Siwko discloses that call blocking changes depending on time on page 1154, col. 1, last paragraph. Siwko discusses the **capacity** changing over time, but not "**adjusting** said initial call request block probability based on elapsed time." Applicants' specification as originally filed states that the block probability is determined and sent by the network (please see paragraph [1035]). This probability is then adjusted based on the elapsed time. Therefore, Siwko does not teach the element of adjusting the block probability based on the elapsed time.

All of Applicants' claims are allowable because they all include the elements mentioned above that are not disclosed in Siwko. Applicants' amend independent claims 1, 8, 14, and 19 to include the feature that "the block probability is determined by a network element" in order to highlight the above distinctions and to expedite prosecution.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 103(a)

Examiner rejected claims 3, 6-7, 912-13, 15, 18 and 20 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Siwko in view of Redden.

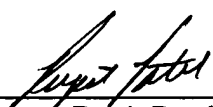
As discussed above, Siwko does not include all elements of Applicants' claims, either in isolation or in combination with Redden. Specifically Siwko in combination with Redden does not disclose of "an initial call request block probability" in a "method for blocking a call request" as well as "adjusting said initial call request block probability based on elapsed time."

REQUEST FOR ALLOWANCE

In view of the foregoing, Applicants submit that all pending claims in the application are patentable. Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance of this application are earnestly solicited. Should any issues remain unresolved, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned at the number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

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